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Appalachian Forest Experiment Station

Growth of Appalachian Hardwood Forests.

Description

North facing cove between 3000 and 3400 feet in elevation on the Duncan Ridge, Union County, Georgia. Area is known locally as the Sosobee Cove. Condition of the timber and quality of the site are exceptional. The present report deals with approximately five acres of the cove occupied almost entirely by yellow poplar.

The area may have been under cultivation for a few years but this could not be determined definitely as local inhabitants disagreed on this point. The area is in government ownership and there has been no past cutting in the stand. Fire history has been favorable, very few scars being present.

Date of examination - July, 1931

Stand per Acre

| Species | Board foot volumes Scribner Dec.C, in trees 12" d.b.h. and 12" d.b.h. and larger. | Number of trees 12" d.b.h. and larger. |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Yellow Poplar | 23,295 | 90 |
| Black cherry | 368 | 1 |
| Black locust | 1,026 | 5 |
| Chestnut (alive) | 2,973 | 10 |
| Basswood (Linn) | 434 | 3 |
| White ash | 197 | 1 |
| Hickory | 246 | 1 |
| Totals | 28,559 | 111 |

Growth

The stand was relatively even aged, varying from 53 to 65 years with an average of 58 years.

Average annual growth per acre $\frac{28559}{53} = 537$ = 492 board feet per acre since inception of stand. Current annual growth for decade 1922 - 1931 was 392 board feet per acre. Increment borings show stand to be slowing up in growth due to heavy stocking.

